(c) Western Coalfields Limited, have sanctioned Morpar project in June, 1989 with a target capacity of 0.28 million tonne per annum and capital investment of Rs., 18.14 crores. The mine is expected to start production by 1994-95. Another project report for Bander blocks is under formulation. In the remaining blocks exploration work is in progress.

Terrorists' Attempt to Blow Bhakra Canal

3491. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether suspected terrorists have made an attempt to blow the Bhakra Canal in Ropar district of Punjab recently;

(b) if so, the damage caused to this Canal; and

(c) the steps being taken for the safety of the said canal?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). A small portion of concrete in the Siswan super passage on Bhakra Main Canal was chipped off as a result of a bomb blast on 11th November, 1991. This was immediately repaired.

(c) The Government of Punjab have reviewed and are strengthening the security arrangements for watch and ward along Nangal Hydel Channel and Bhakra Main Line. In addition to regular patrolling of banks of the canal, police pickets have been set up at all important structures.

[English]

Expansion of Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited

3492. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to expand the BRPL at Bengaigaon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantity of crude oil likely to be transported to Bongaigaon Refinery;

(d) whether the present capacity of OIL pipeline is adequate to transport the additional crude;

(e) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to augment the pipeline capacity; and

(f) the progress of construction of the OIL loop in between Sepon and Noonmati?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal for expanding the Refining capacity of BRPL from 1.35 MMTPA to 2.35 MMTPA at an estimated cost of Rs. 222.99 crores is under consideration.

(c) 2.35 MMTPA of crude oil will have to be transported to the Bongaigaon Refinery.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Oil India's pipeline in the Jorhat-Gauhati sector will have to be expanded by